

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

RI Trails Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

May 20, 2014

Gregg J. Cassidy RI DEM, Planning & Development

Steven Church RI DOT

Bob Butler NE Four Wheel Drive Club

Martha Cruciani Appalachian Mountain Club

Peter Gengler International Mountain Bike Association

Roy Najecki RI Land Trust Council

Henry Cruciani Appalachian Mountain Club

Mike Parker Appalachian Mountain Club

Clarkson Collins So. Kingstown Land Trust

Denise Poyer Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Association

Jack Lancellotta Jaycee Foundation & Pawtuxet River Authority

Steve Hogan Gun Owners Political Action Committee

Gail A. Hogan Rhode Island Rifle & Revolver Association

Harvey Buford Hopkinton Conservation Commission

Cynthia Johnson Hopkinton Land Trust

Marilyn Grant Hopkinton Land Trust

Meg Kerr Blueways Alliance

Jacob Clauson Guest

Chris Arkwright Guest

Sue Barker Greenways Alliance

Lisa Primiano RI DEM, Planning & Development

Bill McCormick RI Trials Club

Kevin Nelson RI Statewide Planning

Jay B. Aron RIDEM, Forestry

Meeting called to order at 3:02 PM.

1. Introductions:

Jacob Clausen & Chris Arkwright introduced themselves as off- Road vehicle enthusiasts who are concerned about the lack of facilities for their user group and want to participate in the discussion of trail resources in the State.

2. Meeting Minutes

Motion to accept meeting minutes of February 18, 2014 meeting as made by Kevin Nelson, seconded by Roy Najecki. Approved.

3. Small Grant Requests

o South Kingston Land Trust- Biscuit City Trail Improvement Grant- . This project will repair erosion on 500 feet of trail. The Committee

approved a grant for \$2590.00 to be used for gravel, crushed stone, equipment rental, silt fence and hay bales. Match will be provided by volunteer labor and professional services. Steve Church mentioned the site will need investigation of cultural resources before being authorized to proceed. Denise Poyer made a motion to approve the grant conditional on a Section 106 review by DOT. Stephen Hogan seconded the motion. Grant Approved.

o Prudence Conservancy- Barre/Indian Springs Trail- This grant request was withdrawn at the request of the Grantee.

o AMC- Arcadia M.A. Ben Utter Trail Shelter- Structural Improvement: \$1000.00, roofing/siding/masonry: \$3000.00. Denise Poyer spoke out for this as a beneficial project and voiced her support for approval of both grant requests. Meg Kerr voiced her concern that breaking the request into two grants is a way of getting around the \$3000 grant maximum. Kevin Nelson stated that although this grant was submitted as separate projects, it is clearly one project and made a motion that the Committee grant an exception to the grant ceiling and approve a \$4000 grant for this project based on the safety issues as well as the historic nature of the structure. Stephen Hogan seconded the motion. Motion Approved. Roy Najecki Opposed.

o AMC- George Washington M.A.- Walkabout Trail Improvement Grant- \$1500.00. To replace deteriorated “bog bridge” that traverse muddy areas. Bob Butler made a motion to approve the grant,

seconded by Pete Gengler. Approved.

o AMC- Burlingame M.A. North-South Trail Improvement Grant- \$1500.00. This is a “work weekend” project planned for Labor Day weekend with Saturday spent on trail work and Sunday spent hiking. The proposed project involves replacing bog bridges in swampy areas. Bob Butler made a motion to approve the grant request, seconded by Roy Najecki. Approved.

4. Other Business

o Grant Policies. Lisa mentioned that DEM is in the process of reviewing the Federal Recreational Trail Grant Guidelines and updating the webpage to provide more guidance. The revised webpage will include more guidance on ineligible items, information on Frequently Asked Questions a revised grant application (for large, small, and educational grants).

o Denise Poyer spoke about her research into educational grant policies in other States and draft guidelines she developed. Lisa mentioned this topic will be discussed in detail at the August TAC meeting.

o Chris Arkwright introduced himself; he is an overload vehicle

enthusiast concerned with the lack of State owned property available for ATV use. He acknowledged that provisions have been made for snow mobile use in the winter but no place for anyone, including young people to ride ATV's .Henry Cruciani pointed out that the TAC Committee supports legal ATV use and four or five years ago did extensive research into the possibility of providing facilities for that user group. He mentioned Bob Barrie as the point of contact for the details of that research. Jay Aron mentioned that Rhody Rovers has three organized events per year using private and State Land.

o Lisa proposed an additional meeting June 10, 2014 to discuss small grant request (there is a backload of requests that came in too late for this meeting). . The previously scheduled August 19th meeting would still be held.

Motion to Adjourn made by Bill McCormick, seconded by Bob Butler.
Approved. Adjourn at 4:30.

Next Meeting:

June 10, 2014 @ 2:00 PM

DEM Headquarters. Room 300

235 Promenade Street

Providence, RI 02908